

TIMBER SALE PROSPECTUS

Sale Name :	Milk Ranch	Type of Sale :	Scaled
National Forest :	Plumas	Ranger District :	Feather River
Bidding Method :	Sealed Bid	Bid Guarantee :	\$500.00

Location of Bid Opening : 159 Lawrence Street, Quincy CA 95971

Date : 07/01/2015

Time : 10:30 AM

1. INTRODUCTION. This prospectus furnishes prospective bidders with information not contained in the published advertisement and is designed to enable bidders to decide whether or not to further investigate the sale. The prospectus is not a legally binding document, but is offered to provide general information about a sale. The contract does not include descriptions, estimates, and other data in this prospectus, unless otherwise stated. In the event that the prospectus contains an error or contradicts the sample contract, the contract governs. Bidders are urged to examine the timber sale and make their own estimates. Timber sale Contract 2400-6 will be used. Inspect the sale area and the sample contract before submitting a bid. Obtain the appraisal, other information on the timber, and conditions of sale and bidding at Forest Service offices listed above and in the named attached advertisement.

2. BIDDING. This is a Sealed Bid sale. Bidders must submit sealed bids on prepared forms they can obtain from Forest Service offices listed above and in the attached advertisement. The forms include instructions for bidding and submission of the required certifications. A bid guarantee must be included with the bid in the form of cash, a bid bond on form FS-6500-13 (4/82) or later, certification of annual bid bond allocation on form FS-6500-13a (4/82) or later, an irrevocable letter of credit, a certified check, bank draft, cashiers check, official bank check, or bank or postal money order payable to the Forest Service, USDA in the amount specified above and in the bid form. The bid guarantee shall be returned to each bidder whose bid is not accepted.

Total Sale Value Bidding:

Prospective purchasers must submit bids in terms of the minimum acceptable total sale value. The bid form states minimum acceptable bid rates and estimated quantities of timber, together with the minimum acceptable total sale value. The advertised minimum acceptable total sale value is only for the biddable species, as listed on the bid form in the upper section of block 14. It does not include any non-biddable, fixed rate species listed in the lower section of block 14 titled "Required Removal at Fixed Rate. Only the Fixed Rate Applies." The bidder should enter the offer on the bid form only in terms of the total sale value. The Forest Service shall establish bid rates by species in the contract by multiplying each species' minimum acceptable bid rate by the bid increase percentage. Such rates will be rounded to the nearest cent. The bid increase percentage is the bidder's total sale value bid rate divided by the minimum acceptable total sale value. The total amount for stumpage is the volume of each biddable species multiplied by its bid rate, plus the volume of each fixed rate species multiplied by its fixed rate.

3. LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION OF TIMBER. Refer to the sample contract and sale area map attached to the sample contract for legal location of sale area, location of subdivisions, location of cutting units, the acreage of sale area, and the cutting unit acreage.

THE FOLLOWING GENERAL LOCATION, ROUTES OF ACCESS, ACREAGES, AND OTHER SPECIAL LOCATION DATA DO NOT SUPERSEDE THE SALE AREA MAP OR SAMPLE CONTRACT.

Milk Ranch Timber sale is located in the Milk Ranch Meadow south east of Challenge, CA. The sale can be reached by taking Oregon Hill Road south of Challenge to Fountain House Road. Sale location is approximately 3 miles east on Fountain House Road and intersection with National Forest System Road 19N00. The sale consists of approximately 15 acres of meadow enhancement and thinning of mixed conifer and hardwood.

4. TIMBER QUANTITIES AND RATES. The quality, size, cut per acre, and product suitability of the timber are estimates based on detailed cruise information on file and available for inspection at the Forest Service offices listed above and in the advertisement. VOLUME QUANTITIES LISTED HEREIN ARE MADE AVAILABLE WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT VALUES SHOWN ARE FOREST SERVICE ESTIMATES AND ARE NOT GUARANTEED. For these reasons, bidders are urged to examine the timber sale area and make their own estimates.

Road Construction Costs. The advertised rate does not include the estimated cost of specified road construction. The estimated road construction cost has been included in the appraisal as a cost that the purchaser will incur. The purchaser will be responsible for the road construction cost and WILL NOT receive credit towards stumpage costs for this expense, i.e., THIS SALE DOES NOT INCLUDE PURCHASER CREDIT and bidders should consider the cost of road construction when developing their bids.

THE MINIMUM ACCEPTABLE BID RATE IS STATED IN THE ATTACHED BID FORM. THESE RATES ARE EFFECTIVE AT THE TIME OF ADVERTISEMENT.

**Estimated Quantities and Minimum Acceptable Rates
per Unit of Measure**

							Required Deposits	
Species	Product	Unit of Measure	Estimated Quantities	Average DBH	Minimum Acceptable Bid Rates	Base Rates	Slash Disposal	Road Maintenance
Combined Softwood	Sawtimber	Ton	1,006.00	N/A	\$4.34	\$1.27	\$1.41	\$0.00
Required Removal at Fixed Rates								
Combined Hardwood	Sawtimber	Ton	49.00	N/A	\$4.00	\$4.00	\$1.41	\$0.00
	TOTAL	Ton	1,055.00				\$1,487.55	\$0.00

The minimum acceptable total sale value bid for advertised timber is \$4,366.04. It does not include any non-biddable, fixed rate species listed on the bid form in the lower section of block 14 titled "Required Removal at Fixed Rate. Only the Fixed Rate Applies." The total amount for stumpage is the volume of each biddable species multiplied by its bid rate, plus the volume of each fixed rate species multiplied by its fixed rate.

The bid rate for species and unit of measure are assigned under procedures for average bid premium bidding, as noted in this prospectus. This rate has been established by appraisal, with a cost allowance for the roads specified by the contract, if any. Required deposits for slash disposal and road maintenance are in addition to the advertised rates for timber. Purchasers are responsible for the cost of specified road construction. Specified road construction costs ARE NOT available to use as credit for the payment of stumpage, i.e., THIS SALE DOES NOT INCLUDE PURCHASER CREDIT.

Timber Subject to Agreement

Species	Product	Unit of Measure	Fixed Rates	Slash Disposal Deposits	Road Maintenance Deposits
Combined Softwood	Cull Logs	Ton			

Estimated Knutson-Vandenberg deposit for sale area improvement work in a total amount of \$3,000.00 is included in total timber value.

5. PERIOD OF CONTRACT. The normal operating season covers the period between 06/01 and 10/31. Contract termination date is 06/30/2016. Extensions of this contract may be granted only when the purchaser has met specified conditions.

If an appeal or lawsuit is filed challenging the decision to award this contract or upon determination by the Regional Forester that conditions existing on this timber sale are the same as, or nearly the same as, conditions existing on other timber sale(s) in appeal or

litigation, Contracting Officer may delay award or reject all bids. If delay in award is for 30 days or more during Normal Operating Season after bid opening, Contracting Officer shall, upon award, adjust the contract term to include additional calendar days in one or more Normal Operating Seasons equal to the time award is delayed during Normal Operating Season.

6. PAYMENT. Payment for timber and any required deposits for slash disposal or road maintenance are required in advance of cutting. The Purchaser may transfer purchaser credit into the contract, or provide an acceptable payment guarantee prior to cutting. Payment for required deposits must be a cash payment. The purchaser shall make advance deposits in accordance with provision B(T)4.212 - Advance Deposits.

The high bidder whose bid is accepted shall, at the time the contract is signed and returned by the bidder, make a downpayment pursuant to Title 36, Section 223.49, of the Code of Federal Regulations. The Contracting Officer will notify the high bidder of the amount necessary to make this payment. In no case shall the downpayment be less than 10 percent of the total advertised value plus 20 percent of the bid premium. After receipt of the downpayment and a satisfactory performance bond and upon execution of the timber sale contract, the Forest Service will return the bid guarantee. A cash bid guarantee may be applied to the downpayment at the request of the purchaser. The purchaser cannot apply the amount deposited as a downpayment to cover other obligations due on the sale until conditions stated in the contract for release of downpayment have been met. Refer to the sample contract for the specific conditions.

7. PERFORMANCE BOND. A performance bond is required. The penal sum of the bond will be 10 percent of the total bid value of the sale, rounded up to the nearest \$100 when the total bid value is \$10,000 or less; and rounded up to the nearest \$1,000 when the total bid value exceeds \$10,000 or \$500.00 whichever is greater. If an irrevocable letter of credit is used to secure the performance bond, the termination of the letter of credit must be at least 6 months past the contract termination date.

8. SPECIFIED ROADS. The Forest Service has determined that the following National Forest System roads shall be constructed or paid for, in whole or in part, by the timber sale purchaser. Sufficient information to permit a prospective bidder to calculate the likely cost to be incurred for road construction is available at the Forest Supervisor's Office. See the sample contract for verification of specific details and information concerning construction specifications. CONSTRUCTION ESTIMATES AND INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN, TOGETHER WITH RELATED SPECIFICATIONS, ARE NOT GUARANTEED. The following roads are those that Forest Service considers necessary to remove the timber from this sale.

Road Number	Road Name	Traffic Service	Approximate Miles/Kilometers	Estimated Road Construction Cost	Type of Work *
YC 130	Fountain House Road	D	0.1 / 0.16	\$8,167.50	R

* C = Construction

R = Reconstruction

The required specified road completion date for all roads is 05/05/2016. If provision C(T)5.13# - Road Completion Date has different dates for projects, this is the final road completion date.

Total estimated construction cost allowed in appraisal is \$8,167.50

9. ROAD MAINTENANCE. Purchaser shall perform or pay for road maintenance work, commensurate with purchaser's use, on roads controlled by Forest Service, and used by purchaser in connection with this sale. Road maintenance requirements are based on the predicted haul route. Any change in the purchaser's actual haul route may necessitate a change in the roads to be maintained and/or in the amount of required deposit for road maintenance. Required deposits for road maintenance are listed in Section 4 and in the sample contract. Maintenance specifications are in the sample contract.

10. INAPPLICABLE STANDARD PROVISIONS. See sample contract.

11. SPECIAL PROVISIONS. See sample contract.

12. SET-ASIDE SALES. Not Applicable.

13. LOG EXPORT AND SUBSTITUTION RESTRICTIONS. The contract requires domestic processing of included timber except for species declared to be surplus, and prohibits the use of such included timber in substitution for unprocessed private timber exported. The bidder, by signing the bid for advertised timber, certifies compliance with the applicable prohibitions against export and substitution prescribed in the Forest Resources Conservation and Shortage Relief Act of 1990, as amended (16 U.S.C. 620, *et seq.*) with each bid.

14. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMPLIANCE REVIEW. If the total bid value plus required deposits for this contract exceeds \$10 million, before award, the Forest Service shall request an equal employment opportunity compliance review of the high bidder to determine compliance with the provisions of Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, as amended by Executive Order 11375 of October 13, 1967 and Executive Order No. 12086 of October 5, 1978.

15. AWARD. The Contracting Officer is required to make a determination of bidder responsibility as stated in Title 36, Section 223.101, of the Code of Federal Regulations.

To determine a purchaser to be responsible, a Contracting Officer must find that:

- a. The purchaser has adequate financial resources to perform the contract or the ability to obtain them;
- b. The purchaser is able to perform the contract within the contract term taking into consideration all existing contracts and Governmental business commitments;
- c. The purchaser has a satisfactory performance record on timber sale contracts. A prospective purchaser that is or recently has been seriously deficient in contract performance shall be presumed not to be responsible, unless the Contracting Officer determines that the circumstances were beyond the purchaser's control and were not created through improper actions by the purchaser or affiliate, or that the purchaser has taken appropriate corrective action. Past failure to apply sufficient tenacity and perseverance to perform acceptably under a contract is strong evidence that a purchaser is not a responsible contractor. The Contracting Officer shall consider the number of contracts involved and extent of deficiency of each in making this evaluation;
- d. The purchaser has a satisfactory record of integrity and business ethics;
- e. The purchaser has or is able to obtain equipment and supplies suitable for logging the timber and for meeting the resource protection provisions of the contract;
- f. The purchaser is otherwise qualified and eligible to receive an award under applicable laws and regulations.

Bidders, by signing the bid form, certify that, to the best of bidder's knowledge the bidder will meet the requirements in 36 CFR 223.101, determination of purchaser responsibility, and, if awarded this contract, that bidder will complete the timber sale contract and any modifications thereof in accordance with its terms including requirements to purchase, cut, and remove included timber.

16. FALSE STATEMENTS ACT. Bidders, by signing the bid form, certify that they are aware that bidder is subject to the penalties prescribed in 18 U.S.C. 1001, Chapter 47, Fraud and False Statements (P.L. 104-45). The Act states "whoever, in any matter within the jurisdiction of any department or agency of the United States knowingly and willfully falsifies, conceals or covers up by any trick, scheme, or device a material fact, or makes any false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or representations, or makes or uses any false writing or document knowing the same to contain any false, fictitious or fraudulent statement or entry, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than 5 years, or both."

17. DAMAGES. This contract shall be terminated for breach pursuant to paragraph 16, 19, and/or 21 of the bid form and the terms of the sample contract if: 1) bidder fails to execute a timber sale contract, furnish a downpayment, or furnish a satisfactory performance bond within 30 days of the award letter's date; or 2) bidder is found to have violated the False Statements Act in making

any statement or certification on the bid form including not meeting purchaser responsibility requirements, and bidder has made a false statement. The bid guarantee shall be retained, in whole or in part, by the Forest Service to satisfy any damages that may be assessed.

18. SUSPENSION AND DEBARMENT CERTIFICATION. Non-procurement debarments and suspensions are governed by the Government-wide common rules (7 CFR 3017).

These rules require each timber sale purchaser, to submit a certification for itself, its principals, and its affiliates when bidding on sales. The bidder must designate its status regarding debarment, suspension, and other matters as specified on the bid form. The bidder, by signing the bid form, certifies this status. An explanation for not submitting a certification may be submitted. The Contracting Officer will determine whether the explanation provides sufficient reason for permitting participation in the bidding. Also, as a timber sale purchaser enters into transactions with subcontractors, these subcontractors must certify their eligibility. The certification titled "Subcontractor Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility, and Voluntary Exclusion" must be provided to subcontractors, but completed certifications are not required to be submitted with bid forms. Purchaser must keep these subcontractor certification forms on file for review by the Forest Service, if requested.

The certification forms and instructions for subcontractor transactions are provided as an addendum to the bid form.

19. OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION (OSHA) LOGGING REGULATIONS. Conduct of operations on this timber sale is subject to inspection for compliance with the logging operations regulations at 29 CFR 1910.266 by OSHA. This standard is applicable to the entire logging industry wherever logging operations occur. Information is available to assist purchasers to ensure compliance with the logging operations regulations during conduct of this timber sale from the U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, OSHA, California Department of Industrial Relations, 1515 Clay Street, Suite 1901, Oakland, California 94612.

20. GENERAL. Corporations submitting an offer under this solicitation must include form AD-3030-FS, Representations Regarding Felony Conviction and Tax Delinquent Status For Corporate Applicants. Copies of this form may be obtained from the Forest Service office shown on page 1 of this prospectus or electronically at:
<http://www.ocio.usda.gov/policy-directives-records-forms/forms-management/approved-computer-generated-forms>.

ROADS:

C5.12 Road Reconstruction is required to repair culverts to make road suitable for haul. Purchaser shall follow design features in Road Package and will abide by the requirements of the Yuba County permit while stopping traffic and repairing road. Purchaser shall meet with Yuba County Public Works prior to start of reconstruction activities. Contact information is listed on the Permit located in Road Package.

C5.31# Road maintenance will require surface blading and dust abatement as necessary for safe hauling of timber.

C5.35# Surface replacement will be charged at \$0.02 per ton.

Purchaser will be responsible for any and all necessary road encroachment permits from the county required to complete operations on this timber sale.

Haul route for this sale is appraised to Quincy, CA. A cost allowance has been added to the appraisal for a county haul permit to use Oregon Hill Road. The cost of a one year blanket permit for three trucks was added to the appraisal for a total of \$270.

Road Package includes specifications for all required maintenance and reconstruction work. These requirements and associated costs have been accounted for in the Timber Appraisal, available by request from Feather River Ranger District.

OPERATIONS:

C2.3# Reserve Trees. Within the meadow portion of this sale there are selected Reserve Trees which shall be protected during operations. If these trees are damaged a charge of \$1000 per tree will be assessed.

C4.211 Combined Hardwood Timber will be paid in lump sum prior to hauling and does not require scaling services. Combined Hardwood sawlogs shall not be removed from sale area until all Combined Softwood sawlogs have been removed and scaled (C6.315#).

C6.315# Operations may occur once soils are considered dry (by using squeeze method), when ground is frozen to depth of five inches, or when snow accumulation is 18 inches deep.

C6.62# Skid trails will be limited within meadow boundary and no landings shall be located in the meadow area.

C6.7# Slash will be treated by falling small damaged trees, scattering slash no deeper than 18 inches, and hand piling along National Forest System Road 19N00. Landing slash will be machine piled on landings for disposal by Forest Service.

A4. Slash Disposal charges will be applied at \$1.41 per ton for all stumpage.

C6.815 This Timber Sale contract is designated for Third Party Scaling. Under this provision Purchaser shall bear and administer the cost of scaling services for Combined Softwood sawlogs.

ADDITIONAL INFO:

The Milk Ranch Timber sale terminates on June 30, 2016. No contract term extensions or adjustments will be granted for this sale due to the need for follow up treatments within the sale area under the Pendola Fire Restoration project and associated timelines.

The estimated equivalent MBF and CCF volumes for the individual species on this sale along with Average Diameters are:

SAWTIMBER

Ponderosa Pine -	125.60 MBF	193.00 CCF	20.4 Avg DBH
Sugar Pine -	1.40 MBF	2.60 CCF	17.6 Avg DBH
White Fir -	1.50 MBF	2.60 CCF	15.2 Avg DBH
Incense Cedar -	11.40 MBF	19.60 CCF	19.2 Avg DBH
Douglas Fir -	41.92 MBF	80.83 CCF	16.2 Avg DBH
TOTAL -	175.30 MBF	282.10 CCF	

Combined Hardwood volume of 49 tons is approximately 20 CCF

The Project Activity Level (PAL-West Side), an industrial operations fire precaution, will be used for this sale. Call 1-800-847-7766 for daily PAL-West information. The Challenge Remote Automated Weather Station (RAWS) will be used to calculate the PAL. The normal operating season is from June 1 to October 31. The expected days per month at each PAL value are calculated in the following table:

Project Activity Level Climatology

Station/SIG/Unit Challenge RAWS Years Analyzed 2006 - 2010

Expected Days at Each Level

	A	B	C	D	Ev	E
June	1.0	4.2	13.4	5.4	3.0	0.0
July	0.0	0.4	12.4	11.0	6.4	0.0
August	0.0	0.8	5.0	9.2	11.2	0.6
September	0.0	2.4	7.6	9.0	10.0	0.4
October	2.4	6.8	12.0	3.4	0.6	0.0

Prospective bidders are strongly encouraged to carefully read and understand the Prospectus and entire contract for work required to be accomplished.

Bids are to be submitted to the Plumas Supervisor's Office, located at 159 Lawrence Street Quincy, CA 95971.

Waiver of Liquidated Damages:

This is to notify the prospective bidders of the Milk Ranch Timber Sale that a "pre-award waiver, release, and limitation of liability agreement", as described in B8.341 - Termination by Forest Service and B8.342 - Termination by Purchaser, shall be required prior to the award of this contract.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in its programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication of program information should contact USDA's TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD).